Document 1

Filed 08/15/2008

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II.

### **PARTIES**

- The Plaintiff is, and at all relevant times was, a corporation duly licensed, existing 2. and doing business in the state of Colorado, engaged in the business of custom window manufacturing.
- The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such information and belief alleges 3. that 5th Avenue Partners, LLC is, and at all times relevant to this action was, a California limited liability company registered and licensed in the state of California, engaged in the business of real estate development, and is the owner or reputed owner of the real property, which is the subject of this action, commonly known as the Diegan Hotel, 1047 5th Avenue, San Diego, California 92101 (APN No. 533-524-13) (the "Subject Property").
- The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such information and belief alleges 4. that AWI is, and at all times relevant to this action was, a Washington corporation registered and licensed in the states of Washington and California, engaged in the business of window sales, distribution and installation. AWI purchased and assumed the liabilities of TWD, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, previously engaged in the business of window sales, distribution and installation.
- The Plaintiff is unaware of the true names, capacities, or basis for liability of the 5. Defendants DOES 1 through 50, inclusive; and, therefore sue(s) said defendants by their fictitious names. The Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege their true names, capacities, or basis for liability when the same has been ascertained. The Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on such information and belief alleges that: (i) fictitiously-named Defendants DOES 1 through 50 are persons or entities claiming interests in the real property which is the subject of this action, which claimed interests are junior and inferior to that of the Plaintiff or are in some manner liable to the Plaintiff for the debts described herein.
- At all times relevant to this action, each defendant, including those fictitiously 6. named, was the agent, servant, employee, partner, joint venturer, or surety of the other defendants and was acting within the scope of said agency, employment, partnership, venture, or suretyship, 860959.2

with the knowledge and consent or ratification of each of the other defendants in doing the things alleged herein.

#### III.

#### JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 7. This Court has both subject matter jurisdiction and personal jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 2201 and 28 U.S.C. section 1332(a), and the amount in controversy, without interest and costs, exceeds the sum or value specified by 28 U.S.C. section 1332. Venue lies in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 1391(a) in that 5th Avenue Partners resides in this district and is in diversity with the Plaintiff, a substantial part of the events giving rise to this suit occurred in this district, and the Subject Property is situated in this district.
- 8. The Subject Property that is the subject of this action is located in the city of San Diego, county of San Diego, state of California. Based upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, 5th Avenue Partners and Does 1-25 were, and now are, the owners or reputed owners of a fee interest in the Subject Property.

#### IV.

#### **FACTS**

- 9. On or about November 27, 2006, the Plaintiff entered into a written agreement (hereinafter the "Contract") with TWD wherein the Plaintiff agreed to provide custom aluminum windows for a work of improvement on the Subject Property which TWD agreed to pay for those services. (Attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "1" is a true and correct copy of the Contract and amendments thereto). Pursuant to the Contract, the Plaintiff agreed to provide custom aluminum windows for the construction of a work improvement at the Subject Property. The Plaintiff provided these materials of every kind and description to be used and consumed in a work of improvement on the Subject Property. The whole of the Subject Property on which the work of improvement is situated is required for the convenient use and occupation of the work of improvement.
  - 10. Pursuant to California Civil Code section 3097, on or about December 6, 2006, the

HIGGS, FLETCHER & MACK LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
SAN DIEGO

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Again, TWD assigned all of its rights and interests to AWI subsequent to entering the Contract with the Plaintiff. 860959.2

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Plaintiff served the Defendants by certified mail with a preliminary 20-day notice (private works) for the Subject Property. The notice contained substantially the following information: Custom Window will furnish materials to be used and consumed in a work of improvement on the Subject Property.

- Between the date of the Contract until its completion, and pursuant to the above-11. described agreement or at the special instance and request of the Defendants, or their agents, the Plaintiff performed and furnished custom aluminum windows that were used and intended to be used in the work of improvement on the Subject Property.
- The Plaintiff has performed all things necessary and required of it under the 12. Contract, except to the extent that the Plaintiff under the Contract was prevented or excused from performing by agreement or by the breach of the Defendants.
- The custom aluminum windows furnished by the Plaintiff have a reasonable and 13. current market value of over \$1,714,439, which TWD agreed in writing to pay.
- Pursuant to California Civil Code section 3110, et seq., the Plaintiff recorded a 14. verified claim of lien for the Subject Property on May 21, 2008, in the office of the County Recorder of San Diego County, after the Plaintiff completed the agreed-on work and before the expiration of 90 days after completion of the work of improvement on the Subject Property. A copy of the claim of lien is attached to this complaint as Exhibit "2" and is incorporated by reference.
- The amount which remained unpaid under the Contract at the time the lien claim was recorded for the Subject Property was \$295,354.56, plus interest.

V.

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

# (BREACH OF CONTRACT AGAINST AWI AND DOES 26-50)

- The Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by this reference each and every 16. allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- AWI and Does 26-50 have breached the Contract in that said defendants have not 17. paid the Plaintiff \$295,354.56 outstanding on the Contract, and such additional sums for lost 860959.2

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profits resulting from delay in payment as will be proved at trial.

18. Although demand therefore has been made since the work was performed and all necessary services, materials and equipment were furnished, the sum of \$295,354.56 is still due and owing thereon to the Plaintiff. As a result of said breach of the Contract, the Plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$295,354.56 and in such additional sums for delay in payment as will be proved at trial.

VI.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

## (FORECLOSURE OF MECHANICS' LIEN

## AGAINST 5TH AVENUE PARTNERS AND DOES 1-25)

- 19. The Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by this reference each and every allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs of this complaint.
- 20. At the time the Plaintiff recorded the claim of lien, the amount stated in the lien claim remained owing, and unpaid. The cost of verifying and recording the lien claim was \$13.00, no part of which has been repaid. The mechanics' lien arising from the Plaintiff's claim of lien is superior in priority to the claims, rights, demands and titles of 5th Avenue Partners and Does 1-25. Since the filing of the lien claim, the Plaintiff has not been paid any of the \$295,354.56 owing for materials furnished by the Plaintiff at the Subject Property. Accordingly, the materials furnished by the Plaintiff and which remain unpaid, including that which was furnished pursuant to change orders and including so-called "extras," has a reasonable and current market value in excess of \$295,354.56.
- 21. Pursuant to California Civil Code section 3110, et seq., the Plaintiff is entitled to a decree of foreclosure as to the Plaintiff's mechanics' lien, on the terms set forth below in the Prayer for Relief.

VII.

## THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### (QUANTUM MERUIT AGAINST DEFENDANTS)

22. The Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by this reference each and every

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#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE Plaintiff demands judgment as follows:

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION: A.

For judgment on the contract cause of action against AWI and Does 26-50, and 1. each of them, in the sum of \$295,354.56 in favor of the Plaintiff, together with interest provided by law, plus costs of suit and reasonable attorney fees.

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#### **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION:** B.

That the sum of \$295,354.56, together with interest provided by law until paid, and 1. the further sum of \$13.00 for verifying and recording the lien, and costs incurred by the Plaintiff in bringing this action, be adjudged and decreed to be a lien on the Subject Property described in this Complaint.

For such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

- That the demands of the Plaintiff and all persons having claims of lien, or any 2. interest in the Subject Property described in this Complaint, be ascertained and adjudged, and that the interests of the Defendants and any persons claiming under them be sold under the decree of this Court to satisfy the amount of the lien ascertained and adjudged in favor of the Plaintiff.
- That, if any deficiency results from the sale of the real property under this Court's 3. decree, the Plaintiff have judgment for such deficiency against the Defendants, and each of them.
- That the Court clerk be directed to docket and enter the personal judgment 4. demanded above, independently of any deficiency judgment that may be entered after sale of the real property under the Court's decree.
  - For costs of suit herein and reasonable attorney's fees. 5.
  - For such other relief that the Court considers just and proper. 6.

#### C. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION:

- For judgment on the quantum meruit cause of action against the Defendants, and 1. each of them, in the sum of \$295,354.56 in favor of the Plaintiff, together with interest provided by law, plus costs of suit and reasonable attorney fees.
  - For such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper. 2.

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#### D. FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION:

- 1. For judgment on the account stated cause of action against AWI in the sum of \$295,354.56 in favor of the Plaintiff, together with interest provided by law, plus costs of suit and reasonable attorney fees.
  - 2. For such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: August 15, 2008

HIGGS, FLETCHER & MACK LLP

By:

MICHAEL R. GIBSON, ESQ. Attorneys for Plaintiff CUSTOM WINDOW COMPANY

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Page 1 of 4	
Purchase Agreement No. 26-03-301	
Job Name: Dicgan Hotel	

#### **PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT, made this <u>22st</u> day of <u>November 2006</u>, at Covington, Washington, by and between <u>TWD LLC</u>. <u>PO Box 7235 Covington</u>, WA. 98042, hereinafter called Contractor, and <u>Custom Window Company.2727 S. Santa Fe Dr. Englewood, CO, 80110 1-303-722-0922 1-303-722-1993</u> hereinafter called Vendor.

WITNESSETH: Contractor has entered into a Contract, hereinafter referred to as the Contract, with TWD LLCPO Box 7235.Covington, WA.98402 hereinafter called Owner, to perform work at: Diegan Hotel 1047.5th Avenue San Diega. CA. hereinafter called the Project, pursuant to plans and specifications prepared by or for Tanner Hecht Architecture. 2 Bryant Street Snite 100.San Fransisco. CA.94105 including all the General and Special Conditions, Drawings, Specifications, and other documents forming or by reference made a part of the Contract, all of which shall be considered part of this Agreement by reference thereto.

The undersigned Vendor hereby agrees to furnish at its own cost and expense all labor, materials, tools, equipment, and facilities necessary to do and fully complete the following described work:

Scope of work includes but is not limited to the following:

Included shall be all latior, materials, shipping, and equipment accessary to fabricate and deliver to the Diegan Hotel site including but not limited to all window systems as per the details and the intent of architectural drawings dated February 28<sup>th</sup> 2006, and shall include but not be limited to the 6000/7000 series kynar finished aluminum frame window panels system complete with but not limited to factory installed glazing, subframes, sills, louvers, panning metal, corner metal, operating hardware, and all accessories necessary for a fully and complete and fully functional window system. All items included in the aforementioned shall be factory installed except accessory metals. Final color shall be per Owner and Architect and is to be TBD.

Included shall be all labor and materials necessary to deliver to TWD LLC a full and complete set of shop drawings for review by TWD and the owners Architect with the understanding and commitment that the shop drawings will be revised or corrected to meet the intent of the contract documents and sent back to Custom Window Company to be revised and returned to TWD. Included with the first window panel delivery shall be two sets of working and erection drawings complete with all assembly details.

Included shall be a manufactures full warranty and shall be delivered in writing to TWD LLC upon the completed installation of all window panel components.

Included shall be all labor, materials, equipment, and shipping necessary to deliver to the Diegan job site per the mutually agreed upon schedule, all window panels on a floor by floor basis and shall be delivered to the site during normal working hours. Custom Window Company shall notify in writing TWD LLC 48 hours in advance of any delivery to the site. If any delivery is short or missing any materials necessary to install the aforementioned window system complete with all the accessories that will disallow the installation in a timely manner or in proper order that Custom Window Company shall do everything in their power to get the missing or short material to the job site so as not to delay the project at Custom Window Companies sole cost.

The intent of this Purchase Agreement is for Custom Window Company to supply and deliver to the job site a window panel system complete and ready for a fully functional installation. TWD LLC shall supply and install all field applied water proofing and fasteners to install the aforementioned window panel system.

11/27/2006 12:15 3037221993

PURCHASE AGREEMENT PLUS TAX Tax Rate TOTAL

\$1,714,439.00 \$0.00 \$1,714,439.00

The work is to be fully completed and delivered to Contractor according to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, including those stipulated on second page, for the following price One Million Seven Hundred Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Nine Dollars (\$1,714,439.00).

Partial payments will be made to Vendor each mouth in an amount equal to 90% of the value, computed on the basis of the price herein set forth, of the quantity of the work performed hereunder, less the aggregate of the previous payments, but such partial payments shall not become due and payable to Vendor until five (5) days after Contractor receives payment for such work from the Owner. No partial payment to Vendor shall operate as approval or acceptance of material furnished hereunder. Upon complete performance of this Agreement by Vendor and final approval and acceptance of Vendor's materials by Owner, Contractor will make final payment to Vendor of the balance due under this Agreement.

This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding of the parties and supersedes any prior proposals or agreements. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Contractor and Vendor have hereunto set their hands and scals in duplicate the day and year first above written.

Federal ID #	Local Sales & Use Tax Rate
Individual	Local Code:
Partnership	Local Rate:
Corporation	State Rate:

TWD LLC	
By: Bruce Greene	
Title: Owner	
Authorized Signature: The Sheet	~
Dated: 11/2e/06	

Custom Window Company			
Ву:	Gregory Mellinger		
Title;	Project Manager		
Authori	zed Signature Gragory Melling		
Dated:	11/27/06		

- Vender, shall pay any and all bills when due for all charges in connection with its work, and failure to do so shall constitute
  failure of performance under this Agreement. If required by Contractor, receipted bills and releases therefore showing
  Vender shall furnish payment in full to Contractor prior to Contractor's payment of any and all sums to Vender.
- 2. The term "failure of performance" as used herein includes but is not limited to failure to deliver shop drawings, samples and other data requested by Contractor, and failure to begin the work hereunder when directed by Contractor, Vendor shall commence the work upon receipt of Contractor's notice to proceed and shall diligently prosecute the same in conformity with Contractor's progress schedule.
- 3. Vendor shall indemnify and save harmless Contractor and its officers, agents, servants and employees from and against any and all claims, loss, damage, liability, cost, charge or expense directly or indirectly resulting from, or arising out of, the performance of, or fallure to perform the work covered by this Agreement. Vendor hereby indemnifies and saves Contractor harmless from any and all claims, loss, damage, liability, cost, charge or expense directly or indirectly arising out of this Agreement which may be caused or claimed to be caused by an act of negligence of Vendor and/or his officers, agents, servants and employees.
- 4. Insofar as the same are applicable to the work described herein, Vendor agrees to be bound to Contractor by the terms of the Contract, and any amendments thereof. In particular, but without limitation, Vendor agrees that the determination of any disputed question made pursuant to the Contract shall be binding upon Vendor, and all provisions of the Contract with respect to the termination thereof shall be binding upon Vendor.
- 5. At any time before completion and final acceptance of the work, Contractor shall have the right to order in writing the omission or addition of work, or order changes or alterations in the work required to be performed by Vendor, and fair deductions or increases shall be made in price for such omissions, additions, changes or alterations; but no such omissions, additions, changes or alterations shall be made by Vendor, or paid for by Contractor, unless and until authorized by Contractor in writing before the commencement thereof.
- 6. If Contractor so requires, Vendor shall obtain and furnish to Contractor and maintain in effect during the life of this Agreement a surety bond in form and with sureties acceptable to Contractor, and in an amount equal to the Agreement price, conditioned upon and covering the faithful performance of and compliance with all the terms, provisions and conditions of this Agreement. The Contractor will pay the cost of this surety bond.
- 7. Vendor shall guarantee its work to the same extent that Contractor is obligated to guarantee its work under the Contract, but in any event shall guarantee its work against all defects in materials or workmanship for a period of one year from the date of final acceptance of the Project by Owner.
- 8. In the event Vendor shall at any time when this Agreement is in effect be adjudicated bankrupt, make an assignment for the benefit of creditors, commit any act of insolvency, or fail to pay promptly when due all bills and charges for labor, materials, and rental of equipment used in the performance of this Agreement, or required by this Agreement to be paid, and/or in the event of Vendor's failure to perform promptly each and every obligation required hereunder, Contractor, upon mailing a written notice to Vendor, may take over the work or any separable part thereof, and complete the same, or have same completed, at Vendor's expense, and in taking over Contractor shall have the right, for the purpose of completing the work hereunder, to take possession of all drawings belonging to Vendor, and for such purpose this Agreement shall be construed as an assignment by Vendor to Contractor of said drawings. Such taking over shall not constitute or be construed as a waiver by Contractor of any action, claim or demand Contractor may have against Vendor by reason of injury or damage resulting to Contractor because of Vendor's failure of performance hereunder. It is agreed that in the event of such taking over by Contractor, Vendor shall pay to Contractor, a sum equal to Contractor's total cost of completing the work, plus a sum of reasonable attorney's fees in taking over and completing the work. In no event shall any delay in performance hereunder by Vendor be excused unless (and then to the extent only) such delay is excused by Owner in respect to Contractor's obligations under its Contract.
- 9. Vendor agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations, ordinances and orders and to promptly pay when due all taxes and contributions to trust funds. Contractor may require certificates from federal, state, local or private bodies showing that all obligations are current and not delinquent and, in the event Contractor is held liable to pay any such taxes or contributions, Vendor agrees to supply Contractor with all records necessary to compute the same and to fully reimburse Contractor upon demand for the amount (including penalties and interest) paid by Contractor, and Contractor shall have the right to deduct any amount so paid from any sums due Vendor hereunder.
- 10. Vendor agrees to pay all royalties and liesnee fees; to defend all suits or claims for infringement of any patent rights involved in the work of Vendor under this Agreement; and to save Contractor harmless from loss, cost or expense on account of such use or infringement by Vendor.
- 11. Vendor agrees to accept and be subject to all terms and conditions of the various labor agreements entered into by Contractor or on Contractor's behalf, applicable to the work herein undertaken. Copies of such agreements and commitments are available upon request.
- 12. If any provision herein is inconsistent with Contractor's Contract with the Owner, or with the drawings or specifications, the specific provision herein shall govern.
- 13. All claims by Vendor against Contractor for damage to the work alloged to have been caused by Contractor, or for any addition to the Agreement price, must be presented to Contractor in writing within thirty (30) days after the damage was inflicted or Vendor allegedly becomes entitled to the addition.

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14. Should any provision of this Agriculent now or at any time during the term hereof conflict with any federal, state or municipal law, regulation or the like, or any applicable judicial decision, then such provision shall continue in full effect only to the extent permitted. In the event any provision of this Agreement is thus held inoperative, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall nevertheless remain in full force and effect.

15. A waiver by Contractor of any breach or violation by Vendor of any provision hereof or of the Contract, shall not constitute a waiver of any further or additional breach of such provision or of any other provision. No provision of this Agreement, including the foregoing general conditions, may be waived by Contractor except in writing; and this Agreement

may only be amended by written agreement of Contractor and Vendor.

RECORDING REQUESTED BY: Custom Window Company 2727 South Santa Fe Drive Englewood, CO 80110

WHEN RECORDED MAIL TO: Custom Window Company c/o Michael R. Gibson, Esq. Higgs, Fletcher & Mack, LLP 401 West "A" Street, Suite 2600 San Diego, CA 92101 THE ORIGINAL OF THIS DOCUMENT
WAS RECORDED ON MAY 21, 2008
DOCUMENT NUMBER 2008-0275034
GREGORY J. SMITH, COUNTY RECORDER
SAN DIEGO COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE
TIME: 4:10 PM

SPACE ABOVE THIS LINE FOR RECORDER'S USE

# MECHANIC'S LIEN (CLAIM OF LIEN)

The undersigned, Custom Window Company ("Claimant"), claims a mechanic's liert for labor, services, equipment and/or materials, furnished for a work of improvement upon that certain real property located in the County of San Diego, State of California, and which is described as the Diegan Hotel, 1047 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Diego, California, 92101 (APN: 533-524-13).

After deducting all just credits and offsets, the sum of \$295,354.56, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from on or about May 2, 2008 is due Claimant for the following labor, services, equipment and/or materials furnished by Claimant: aluminum windows.

The name of the persons or company by whom Claimant was employed, or to whom Claimant furnished the labor, services, equipment and/or materials is TWD, LLC, P.O. Box 7235, Covington, Washington, 98042 (which was subsequently acquired by AWI, Inc., 950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 1250, Tacoma, Washington, 98402.

The name(s) and address(es) of the owner(s) or reputed owner(s) of the real property is/are: Fifth Avenue Partners, LLC, 260 Newport Center Drive, Suite 100, Newport Beach, California, 92660.

Dated: MAy 15, 2008

**Custom Window Company** 

DANA WEBSTER

Its: Chief Risk Officer

Dana Welste

#### **VERIFICATION**

I, Dana Webster, declare that:

I am the Chief Risk Officer of Custom Window Company, named as the Claimant in the foregoing Claim of Lien. I am authorized to make this verification for said Claimant. I have read the Claim of Lien and know its contents, and the same is true of my knowledge. I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the States of California and Colorado, that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on MAy 15, 2008

State of California Colorado  County of Arapahoe  On MAY 15 ZOOS before me, DANA Webster Name and Title of the Officer personally appeared Name(8) of Signer(6)			
My Commission Expires 06/21/2009	I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the law of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph true and correct.  WITNESS my hand and official seal.  Signature Signature of Notary Public		
Though the information below is not required by law	Nbar of Domos		
Signer(s) Other Than Named Above:  Capacity(ies) Claimed by Signer(s)  Signer's Name: Individual Corporate Officer — Title(s): Partner — Limited General Attorney in Fact Trustee Guardian or Conservator Other: Signer Is Representing:	☐ Individual ☐ Corporate Officer — Title(s): ☐ Partner — ☐ Limited ☐ General ☐ Attorney in Fact ☐ Attorney in Fact		

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION VII. REQUESTED IN **COMPLAINT:** UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND: X Yes No VIII. RELATED CASE(S) (See instructions) IF ANY JUDGE DOCKET NUMBER DATE SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD August 15, 2008 FOR OFFICE USE ONE OO\_APPLYING IFP RECEIPT # JUDGE MAG. JUDGE CSDJS44

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO DIVISION

# 154110 -- MB

August 15, 2008 14:41:25

# Civ Fil Non-Pris

USAO #.: 08CV1497 CIVIL FILING

Judge..: M. JAMES LORENZ

Amount.:

\$350.00 CK

Check#.: BC23113

Total-> \$350.00

FROM: CUSTOM WINDOW CO VS

5TH AVE PARTNERS LLC, ET AL